

Filed for intro on 04/17/2002

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 644  
By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Spartans of White Station High School on winning the 2002 TSSAA Class AAA State Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, have brought honor to the State of Tennessee and who serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, the White Station High School Spartans are one such estimable team; during their outstanding 2002 basketball season, they earned the title of TSSAA Class AAA State Champions; and

WHEREAS, the Spartans compiled a remarkable record of 36 wins against only 2 losses, including a championship in the prestigious Beach Ball Classic in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, as the top-ranked team in Class AAA throughout the season, White Station faced the best effort their opponents could muster in each game; repeatedly rising to meet each

SJR0644

01374284

challenge, they earned the respect of the nation and ascended to a #9 ranking in the final *USA Today* Super 25 poll and #11 in the final *Student Sports* Feb 50; and

WHEREAS, following a remarkable regular season, the Spartans progressed through the postseason in businesslike fashion to earn a berth in the State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in Murfreesboro, White Station's boys emerged as the top team in their division and claimed the title of 2002 TSSAA Class AAA Champions; and

WHEREAS, throughout the season, the Spartans succeeded through the application of stifling defensive pressure and overwhelming offensive firepower; and

WHEREAS, using wave after wave of substitutions, they repeatedly used their supreme depth to wear down and demoralize their opposition; this strategy was incredibly effective because of the vast talents of the individual players and because of their commitment to always make the good of the team their top priority; and

WHEREAS, the Spartans epitomized the ideal team concept; though remarkably gifted individually, they bonded together so effectively that the team truly became better than the sum of its parts; and

WHEREAS, this laudable basketball team attained its magnificent success through much hard work and tremendous teamwork, allowing them to claim the school's second championship in three years; and

WHEREAS, in the State Tournament, tremendous leadership was provided by Melvin Wilkes, who was honored as Most Valuable Player, and from Dane Bradshaw, the team's unselfish point guard and floor leader; and

WHEREAS, though individually, the Spartans have garnered much recognition, the most impressive achievement by any of the White Station players was the one that they all earned, the title of State Champions; and

WHEREAS, these talented young men were ably guided by Coach Terry Tippet, who now has three state championships to his credit and who laid the groundwork for the Spartans' success by sharing their substantial knowledge and love of basketball with the team; and

WHEREAS, the basketball players at White Station High School epitomize all that is worthy and commendable in the ideal student-athlete; they have achieved notable success on the basketball court while displaying the utmost character both inside and outside of the gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, the stalwart dedication, strong work ethic, and many talents of this group of young men have not only resulted in an outstanding season, but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the White Station Spartans for their success on the court and for serving as excellent examples of the tremendous quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we congratulate the White Station Spartans on winning the 2002 TSSAA Class AAA State Championship, join with their teachers, families, and friends in celebrating their remarkable success, and wish them the best in every future endeavor, both inside and outside of the gymnasium.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.